

2. SUMMARY: ARMY REMAINS TENSE, BUT QUIET, AS THE KABUL LEADERSHIP APPEARS TO BE WAITING OUT A POSITIVE MILITARY REACTION TO THE PURGE OF THE THREE REMAINING MILITARY [ILLEG] OF THE CABINET. THEY [ILLEG] ARMORED UNITS IN KABUL APPEAR TO BE REMAINING LOYAL TO PRIME MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN. NO AIR FORCE ACTIVITY HAS BEEN NOTED THUS FAR IN THE CRISIS. THE SOVIETS MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS TACTICAL POLITICAL MANEUVER. END OF SUMMARY.

2. [ILLEG] OF NOON, KABUL TIME, THE CITY OF KABUL REMAINS [ILLEG], BUT RELATIVELY QUIET. TIGHT MILITARY SECURITY IS [WORDS ILLEG] MAINTAINED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA TO THE ARG

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

PALACE (HOUSE OF "[ILLEG]") AND THE BASIC AFGHANISTAN COMPLEX NEXT TO THE EMBASSY (ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY IS NOW BEING PERMITTED THROUGH THE REAR GATE). THIS TONE, CONTROLLED BY TANKS AND [ILLEG], INCLUDES THE MAIN STREET FROM PUSHTUNISTAN SQUARE NORTH-EASTWARD TOWARD THE AIRPORT. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THE AIRPORT IS OPEN FOR NORMAL TRAFFIC ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY, NORMAL COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY IS BEING PERMITTED AND TRAFFIC IS NORMAL. ALL KEY INTERSECTIONS ARE BEING GUARDED BY ARMORED VEHICLES, HOWEVER.

4. THE EMBASSY IS STILL TRYING TO PIECE TOGETHER THE PATTERN OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE SEPTEMBER 14 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE REMAINING MILITARY OFFICERS FROM THE CABINET (KABUL 6851) AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAXIMUM SECURITY PERIMETER AROUND THE REMAINING KHALQI LEADERSHIP. THAT SOMETHING WAS IN THE WIND HAD BEEN NOTED OVER THE PAST THREE OR FOUR DAYS. THE INDIAN CONSUL AT JALALABAD NOTED AROUND SEPTEMBER 12 THAT GOVERNOR MOSD. ZARIF WAS NOT THERE -- IN SPITE OF EXTENSIVE FIGHTING IN THAT REGION. HE HAD WONDERED WHETHER ZARIF HAD BEEN KILLED OR CAPTURED. AS IT TURNS OUT, ZARIF HAD APPARENTLY BEEN RETURNED TO KABUL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PURGE OF THE MILITARY MEMBERS OF THE CABINET. THE NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS HAD BEEN DEPUTY MINISTER IN THAT SAME MINISTRY BEFORE BEING TRANSFERRED SOME MONTHS AGO TO KANDAHAR AS GOVERNOR. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN THE PAST, AND IS REGARDED AS INTELLIGENT, COMPETENT, AND PRAGMATIC. NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT THE FATE OF HIS PREDECESSOR MINISTER SAYED MOHD. GULABZOY.



REPORTS OF THE ARMY AND THE POLICE AFFAIRS IN KASHMIR HAVE BEEN THE EMPASSY (ADDITION TO THE EMPASSY IS FOR THE ARMY AND THE POLICE AFFAIRS). THIS TONE, COMBINATION OF TALK AND TALK, INCLUDES THE MAIN STREET FROM THE KASHMIRIAN STREET SOUTH-EASTWARD TOWARD THE AIRPORT. IT IS NOT THE CLEAR WHETHER THE AIRPORT IS OPEN FOR NORMAL TRAFFIC. RESEMBLING IN THE CITY, NORMAL COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY IS BEING RESUMED AND TRAFFIC IS NORMAL. ALL THE INTERSECTIONS ARE BEING CHANGED BY ARMORED VEHICLES, POLICE.

4. THE EMPASSY IS STILL TRYING TO PIECE TOGETHER THE PATTERN OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE SEPTEMBER 14 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE REMAINING MILITARY OFFICERS FROM THE CAPITAL (ISHTI P651) AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAXIMUM SECURITY PERIMETER AROUND THE REMAINING KHALCI LEADERSHIP. THAT SOMETHING WAS IN THE YING HAD BEEN NOTED OVER THE PAST THREE OR FOUR DAYS. THE INDIAN CONSUL AT JALALABAD NOTED AROUND SEPTEMBER 12 THAT GOVERNOR MOND, ZARIF WAS NOT THERE -- IN SPITE OF EXTENSIVE FIGHTING IN THAT REGION. HE HAD CONSIDERED WHETHER ZARIF HAD BEEN KILLED OR CAPTURED. AS IT WOULD BE, ZARIF AT APPARENTLY HAD RETURNED TO CANCEL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORGE OF THE MILITARY RE-ENTRY OF THE CAPITAL. THE NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS HAD BEEN CAPTURED MINISTER I. THAT SAME MINISTER BEFORE BEING TRANSFERRED SOMEWHERE AND TO KANDAHAR AS GOVERNOR. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN THE PAST, AND IS REGARDED AS INTELLIGENT, COMPETENT, AND PRAGMATIC. NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT THE FACT OF THE DISCUSSION MINISTER SAYS MOND, GOLARZOV.

5. THE BRITISH EMPASSY HAD HEARD RUMORS ON SEPTEMBER 13 THAT FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER MOND, HASLAM WATANJAR AND FRONTIER MINISTER SHEER JAM MAZDOORAT HAD BEEN "KIDNAPPED BY REBELS." MAZDOORAT WAS LAST SEEN BY FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AT THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION ON SEPTEMBER 9, AND WATANJAR WAS LAST SEEN WHEN PRESIDENT MOOR MOND, FARAKI RETURNED FROM KANDAHAR ON SEPTEMBER 11 (AT WHICH TIME HE WAS SAVED FROM AFTER AMONG THE GREETING PARTY). THE FATE OF THE REPLACED MINISTERS WAS NOT ANNOUNCED BY THE AFGHAN RADIO, ALTHOUGH THEY COULD CONCEIVABLY STILL BE AT LARGE -- A POSSIBLE REASON FOR THE TIGHT MILITARY ALERT, IT IS MORE

PROBABLE THAT THE KHALCI LEADERSHIP WAS ABLE TO ARREST THEM. A MAN AS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AS WATANJAR COULD WELL HAVE BEEN EXECUTED AFTER A QUICK "INTERROGATION" SESSION. INDIAN DIPLOMATS NOTED FEARS ACTIVITY AT THE SPECIAL AGRA INTERROGATION CENTER ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE EMPASSY SHORTLY BEFORE NOON ON SEPTEMBER 14.

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

7. THE 1750 EXPLOSION AT THE ARG ON SEPTEMBER 14 WAS CLEARLY AN AIR BURST, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL WITNESSES. IT COULD HAVE BEEN AN ARTILLERY OR MORTAR ROUND FIRED AT THE ARG -- PERHAPS FOR SOME TYPE OF SIGNALLING PURPOSES. THERE WERE NO FOLLOW-UP SHOTS. ISOLATED SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS HEARD AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY LATER THAT AFTERNOON -- AND AGAIN ON THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 15. THE SIGNIFICANCE, IF ANY, OF THIS LATER ACTION IS STILL UNKNOWN.

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

8. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE SOVIETS MUST NOT HAVE BEEN PRIVY TO THE SEPTEMBER 14 EVENTS BEFORE THE FACT. EMBASSY OFFICERS TRAVELLING IN THE [2 WORDS ILLEG] ROYAL HOUSING AREA--WHERE LARGE NUMBERS OF SOVIETS LIVE--SHORTLY BEFORE THE [ILLEG] 1767 EXPLOSION YESTERDAY NOTED RUSSIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN BATHING AND PLAYING WITHOUT ANY OBVIOUS SECURITY PRECAUTIONS. [ILLEG] TODAY, HOWEVER, THAT AREA WAS REPORTED BY THE INDIAN [ILLEG] TO BE GUARDED BY SOVIET SOLDIERS WEARING AFGHAN UNIFORMS. EMBASSY OFFICERS TOURING THE AREA AT 1000 HOURS HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF THIS HOWEVER. THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN KART-I-SE IS NOW BEING GUARDED BY TWO TANKS. THREE KHALQI MINISTERIAL LIMOUSINES, WITH GUARDS WERE OBSERVED BY A BRITISH DIPLOMAT WAITING OUTSIDE THAT EMBASSY. WE ASSUME THAT THIS MEANS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NOW IN THE PLAY.

9. THE ABSENCE OF ANY AIR ACTIVITY FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS STRIKES US AS NOTEWORTHY. THE AIRFORCE MIGHT HAVE BEEN GROUNDED AS UNRELIABLE -- AS WAS THE CASE WHEN DEFENSE MINISTER ABDUL CADER WAS PURGED.



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WENT TO THE SEVENTH 14 DIVISION, BUT THE FACTS ARE  
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EXPRESSION YESTERDAY NOT A RUSSIAN, AND CHINA  
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BE GUARDED BY SOVIET SOLDIERS WEARING AFGHAN UNIFORMS. EMBASSY OFFICERS  
LEAVING THE AREA AT 1700 HOURS HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF THIS  
HOWEVER, THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN KART-I-DE IS NOW BEING GUARDED  
BY TWO TANKS. THERE ARE ALSO MINISTRIAL LIMOUSINES, WITH GUARDS  
WERE OBSERVED BY A BRITISH DIPLOMAT WAITING OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY.  
WE ASSUME THAT THIS MEANS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NOW IN THE PLAY.

10. THE ABSENCE OF ANY AIR ACTIVITY FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR  
HOURS SUGGESTS US AS NOTING. THE AIRFORCE MIGHT HAVE  
BEEN OPERATIONAL AS UNRELIABLE -- AS WAS THE CASE WHEN DEFENSE  
MINISTER AFGHAN CADRE WAS KILLED.

11. COMMENT: AMIN, WHO IS IN A POSITION TO MONITOR  
THE ARMED FORCES CLOSELY, MIGHT HAVE DETECTED WHAT HE PER-  
CEIVED AS A RUSSIAN WATANJAB-LED PLOT -- AND DECIDED TO KIP  
IT IN THE END WITH A PREEMPTIVE STRIKE. THIS ACTION HAS  
COMPLETELY EXCLUDED THE MILITARY FROM THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
-- AND THEREAFTER FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, AS WELL. NO  
THE REMAINING MILITARY LEADERSHIP WILL REACT -- IF THEY  
REACT AT ALL -- REMAINS TO BE SEEN. THE KAT KANDAHAR AREA FORCES  
APPEAR TO BE HOLDING FIRM IN AMIN'S SUPPORT THIS FAR.

12. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THE SOVIETS KNEW ABOUT  
AMIN'S MOVE IN ADVANCE -- OR WERE SOBBENLY FACED WITH A  
FAIT ACCOMPLI. MOSCOW CERTAINLY CANNOT BE PLEASED THAT THE  
KHALAIS, CONTRARY TO SOVIET ADVICE, HAVE NARROWED THEIR  
POLITICAL POWER BASE FURTHER, THEREBY MAKING MORE  
DIFFICULT THE CURRENT STRUGGLE FOR THE REGIME'S SURVIVAL.  
IT MAY NOW OCCUR TO THE SOVIETS THAT A CHOICE MILITARY CO. COULD  
STABILIZE THE CURRENT POLITICAL MEAS. THIS WOULD PERMIT  
A COMPLETELY NEW CAST OF LEADERS TO TAKE OVER CONTROL--  
PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN MILITARY OFFICERS WHO COULD TELL THEIR  
POLITICAL INCLINATIONS AND TONE DOWN THE MORE INFLAMMATORY  
ASPECTS OF THE GREAT SATR REVOLUTION. IN COMING DAYS  
WE WILL BE TRYING TO IDENTIFY SOME THESE OFFICERS.